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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/588,433	08/04/2006	Robert Alexander Van Eibergen Santhagens	NL04 0122 US1	8808
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EXAMINER				
MCDONALD, SHANTESE L				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3723				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
10/01/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary**Application No.**

10/588,433

Applicant(s)

VAN EIBERGEN SANTHAGENS ET AL.

Examiner

SHANTESE MCDONALD

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

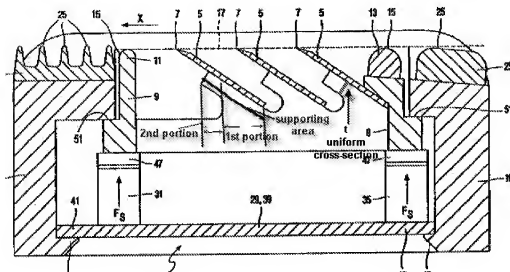
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,2,4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Eibergen, (WO 01/39937).

Eibergen teaches a shaving device having a grip, 3, and a shaving head, 1, which is releasably mounted to the grip, (pg. 5, lines 10-11), the shaving head comprising at least two blade-shaped cutting members, 5, each having a straight cutting edge extending parallel to a longitudinal direction of the shaving head, each cutting member being supported in a cartridge of the shaving head by means of a supporting member supporting the respective cutting member in a supported area on the respective cutting member, the supported area extending over a predetermined distance perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, and each supporting member having a first portion in contact with the supported area remote from the cutting edge and a second portion in contact with the supported area near the cutting edge, (see attached marked figure 2), the first portion having a basic cross sectional area, seen perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction, and the second portion having a reduced cross-sectional area characterized in that the second portion of the supporting member of each of the cutting member extends over at least half of the predetermined distance. Eibergen also teaches that the second portion is a toothed portion, (fig. 2). (The

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examiner notes that the supporting areas that extend from the sub frame, 9, are considered to be toothed, with each tooth supporting a section of a different blade, 5).



Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eibergen in view of Ferraro.

Eibergen teaches all the limitations of the claims except for the second portion being wedge-shaped. Ferraro teaches wedge shaped supporting or second portions, 79. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to provide the tool of Eibergen with wedge shaped second portions, as taught by Ferraro, in order to enhance the supporting capabilities.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 7/11/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The Applicant argues that the Eibergen reference does not teach that the first portion has a uniform cross sectional area. The Examiner disagrees. The specification of the present application teaches that the uniform cross section is the thickness "t" as shown in figure 2, and has a rectangular cross section with a basic cross sectional area of $t \cdot L$, with L being the length of the supporting member. The Examiner notes that Eibergen does teach a rectangular cross section, "t", and the basic cross section of $t \cdot L$ with L being the length of the support member, (see the above attached marked up figure to see "t").

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SHANTESE MCDONALD whose telephone number is (571)272-4486. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Hail can be reached on (571) 272-4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

S.L.M.
September 29, 2008

/Joseph J. Hail, III/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3723